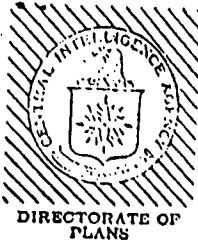


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17 19 20 JUN 69

CITE TDCS DB-315/00194-69

DIST 17 JANUARY 1969

COUNTRY WEST GERMANY/EAST GERMANY/USSR

DOI EARLY JANUARY 1969

SUBJECT EAST GERMAN COUNTEROFFER TO WEST GERMAN PRISONER EXCHANGE
PROPOSAL

ACQ GERMANY (13 JANUARY 1969) FIELD NO. OGA-853

SOURCE A WEST GERMAN PUBLICIST WHO HAS REPORTED RELIABLY FOR SEVERAL
YEARS. HIS GERMAN ACQUAINTANCES ARE AWARE OF HIS CONTACTS
AMONG AMERICAN OFFICIALS. HE OBTAINED THE INFORMATION FROM A
WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL WHO IS KEPT INFORMED OF
PRISONER EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2E
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2005

1. //FIELD COMMENT - ON 21 DECEMBER, 1968, THE WEST
GERMAN GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTED TO RESOLVE THE CURRENT IMPASSE
ON PRISONER EXCHANGES BY OFFERING TO EXCHANGE SOVIET SPY
HEINZ FELFE FOR A NUMBER OF FORMER WEST GERMAN INTELLIGENCE
SERVICE / BND/ AGENTS WHO ARE IMPRISONED IN EAST GERMANY.
(SEE TDCSDB-315/00004-69.)

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2. THE 31 DECEMBER LIST CONTAINED THE NAMES OF 29 WEST GERMANS, MOST OF WHOM WERE SERVING LONG-TERM PRISON SENTENCES. A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THESE PRISONERS HAD BEEN CONVICTED ON CHARGES OF ESPIONAGE, SUPPOSEDLY ON BEHALF OF THE RND.

3. IN EARLY JANUARY, THE EAST GERMANS TRANSMITTED A COUNTEROFFER THROUGH EAST GERMAN PRISONER EXCHANGE NEGOTIATOR WOLFGANG VOGEL TO HIS WEST GERMAN COUNTERPART, ATTORNEY JUERGEN STANGE. ACCORDING TO THIS COUNTEROFFER, THE EAST GERMANS ARE WILLING TO RELEASE 22 OF THE 29 WEST GERMANS, AND, IN ADDITION, THREE WEST GERMAN STUDENTS WHO ARE IMPRISONED IN THE USSR.

4. //SOURCE COMMENT - THE WEST GERMAN OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE COUNTEROFFER HAS BEEN SENT TO THE OFFICES OF CHANCELLOR KURT GEORG KIESINGER AND ALL-GERMAN AFFAIRS MINISTER HERBERT WEHNER. IT IS EXPECTED THAT WEHNER WILL TRY TO INFLUENCE THE CHANCELLOR TO ACCEPT THE EAST GERMAN OFFER.//

5. FIELD DISSEM - EMBASSY BONN, USSR.

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